

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Bulgaria
SUBJECT Condition of Bulgarian Roads

REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The road from Gorna Studena (N 43-25, E 25-21) to Svishtov is four meters wide and approximately three or four kilometers long. It has a surface of dark gravel and is well-maintained and open to traffic throughout the year. There are approximately five bridges along this road over streams and ravines, but, since they are of wooden construction, only light transport can be accommodated.
2. The road connecting Gorna Studena and Pavlikeni (N 43-14, E 25-18) is four meters wide and 22 kilometers long. It is paved with dark gravel and is kept in good repair. There are seven bridges along this route, as follows:
 - a. Three kilometers south of Gorna Studena, at a location one kilometer north of Kara Yasen (N 43-23, E 25-21), Pavlikeni okoliya;
 - b. At the village cemetery of Kara Yasen;
 - c. One kilometer northeast of Batak (N 43-21, E 25-20), Pavlikeni okoliya;
 - d. In Batak village;
 - e. Two or three kilometers south of Batak;
 - f. West of the "Patreshka Cheshma" locality at the edge of Patresh (N 43-18, E 25-21), Pavlikeni okoliya; and
 - g. At the beginning of the outskirts of Pavlikeni.

All bridges, with the exception of the one to the south of Gorna Studena, are of wooden construction and are capable of carrying only light traffic. The bridge

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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to the south of Gorna Studena is an arch bridge of stone and brick and has an iron railing. Its width is approximately four meters and therefore only 1-way traffic is possible. The bridge is approximately 40 meters long, has two supports, and has a capacity of 30 tons, which allows the transport of marble slabs from the quarries in the region of the bridge.

3. The road from Gabrovo (N 42-52, E 25-19) to Sevlievo (N 43-02, E 25-06) is four meters wide and 22 kilometers long. It is paved with white gravel and receives regular maintenance care. There are three bridges along this route, as follows:
 - a. At Vranilovtsi (sic, possibly Vrangulevtsi, N 42-54, E 25-12), Gabrovo okoliya, an iron bridge which has an iron railing, approximately 20-30 meters long, four meters wide, four meters "high," and has a reinforced concrete support in the middle; this bridge is strong and can accommodate the heaviest traffic;
 - b. Approximately four or five kilometers from Vranilovtsi in the direction of Sevlievo, a reinforced concrete bridge approximately 20-30 meters long, four meters wide, and three or four meters "high"; this bridge has no supports, but is strong enough to carry any traffic; and
 - c. Approximately five or six kilometers from Sevlievo in the direction of Gabrovo, a stone and brick bridge which has no railing, approximately 10 meters long, four meters wide, and approximately three meters "high"; this bridge can support any traffic.
4. The Mezek (N 41-44, E 26-06) -Malko Gradishte (N 41-46, E 25-59) road, which passes near the village of Siva Reka (N 41-47, E 26-05), is a new road which was planned and constructed two or three years ago. It is four meters wide, has a white gravel surface, and is in good condition. There are no large bridges anywhere along this route, and the small bridges are all of iron or stone construction. One of the largest of these bridges is in the village of Malko Gradishte. It is a strong bridge, approximately four meters wide, 10 meters long, and two meters "high"; the roadbed, railing, and both supports are of reinforced concrete.

The Mezek-Novo Selo-Svilengrad-Studena Road

5. The road from Mezek to Novo Selo (N 41-47, E 26-09), which is four meters wide, has a gravel surface and is in a bad condition because of poor maintenance. There is an old wooden bridge over the tank ditch in this area.
6. The section from Novo Selo to Svilengrad is in good repair. This road is six meters wide and is surfaced with gravel and occasionally sand. An old stone bridge, an old Greek construction of the 1-arch type, is located in the Tsarigrad outskirts of Svilengrad. It is 80-90 meters long, has three or four supports and a stone railing, and can accommodate all traffic. The reinforcement between the stones is of lead. A Militia post at which otkrit lists are checked is located at the bridge.
7. The road from Svilengrad to Studena (N 41-55, E 26-55), Svilengrad okoliya, is a very good road. It is six meters wide and has a gravel surface. The last two kilometers before entering Studena are completely new and in good condition, having been constructed during the summer of 1951. A bridge approximately four meters wide, 30-40 meters long, and two or three meters "high" is located before Lefka village (N 41-52, E 26-17), Svilengrad okoliya. It is of wooden construction, has a wooden railing and approximately 15 wooden supports set at 2-meter intervals, but is weak and can barely support empty trucks.

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